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REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action dated March 1, 2005. As explained below, Applicants believe that the rejections are based on a misunderstanding of the Cheng reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,211,878).

All of the pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by Cheng, or as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on the combination of Cheng and one or more secondary references. (Official Action, pp. 2-8). In each of these rejections, the Official Action cites to Col. 6, lines 24-29 and 44-48 of Cheng as disclosing the "responsive to the scrolling output, determining a URL of a web page" recitation of independent Claims 1 and 14, and as disclosing the "detecting a scrolling output of a scroll mouse while the source page is displayed; determining a sense of direction of the scrolling output; and responsive to the sense of direction, determining a URL associated with a destination page" recitation of independent Claims 3 and 16. (Official Action, pp. 2, 4 and 6). Additionally, the Official Action states that Fig. 1 of Cheng discloses that "the display previous page of frame turning mode 45 can be activated by signals (Back/Forward) from scroll mode box 42." (Official Action, p. 8).

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's inclusion of a detailed "Response to Arguments" section in the Official Action. Based on this discussion in this section, Applicants understand the Official Action as taking the position that Cheng discloses the above-quoted recitations of independent Claims 1, 3, 14 and 16 in two different ways. In particular, the Official Action indicates that Display Previous Page Mode (box 45) of Fig. 1 meets these claim recitations (1) when activated by the "Back/Forward" arrows that connect box 42 and box 45 of Fig. 1 and (2) when activated by the arrows that connect box 46 and box 45. Applicants respectfully submit that neither aspect of Fig. 1 of Cheng disclose or suggest determining the URL of a web page in response to a scrolling output.

Specifically, Fig. 1 and the description thereof in the specification of Cheng indicate that the Display Previous Page Mode (box 45) is entered from Scroll Mode (box 42) by activation of either a "Forward" or "Back" button. (Cheng at Fig. 1 and Col. 6, lines 24-26). The Forward and Back buttons, however, do not generate a scrolling output – they are simply conventional page back and page forward activation mechanisms. Applicants respectfully

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submit that the fact that Cheng indicates that the Forward and Back buttons can be activated while in Scroll Mode (box 42) does not change this analysis. Scroll Mode (box 42) allows "the web browser [to] advance or regress through information on a web page according to a relative rotation of a user interface device such as a wheel." (Cheng at Col. 6, lines 9-12) (emphasis added). While Scroll Mode (box 42) may be entered in response to a scrolling signal (see Fig. 1 of Cheng), Scroll Mode (box 42) may only be used to scroll through a single web page and cannot be used to determine the URL of another web page. Once in Scroll Mode (box 42), the user has several options, including (1) exiting Scroll Mode (box 42) and returning to box 38, (2) switching to Scrolling Page Mode (box 44) or (3) switching to Display Previous Page Mode (box 45). However, none of these options are entered in response to a scrolling output. Thus, as a traditional Forward/Back button is used to enter Display Previous Page Mode (box 45) from Scroll Mode (box 42) as opposed to a scrolling output, Applicants respectfully submit that the connection between boxes 42 and 45 of Fig. 1 of Cheng does not disclose determining the URL of a web page responsive to a scrolling output.

As noted above, the Official Action also indicates that the Display Previous Page Mode (box 45) is entered from Frame Turning Mode (box 46) in response to a scrolling output. Applicants respectfully submit that Fig. 1 of Cheng shows that this is not the case. In particular, if the scroll wheel is activated while in Frame Turning Mode (box 46), Fig. 1 shows that the scrolling output causes activation of the Turn to Frame Mode (box 54) as opposed to the Display Previous Page Mode (box 45). (See Cheng at Fig. 1, showing that when a "scroll" input is received at box 46 operations move to box 54). The specification of Cheng confirms that this is the case. (See Cheng at Col. 6, lines 51-54). Of course, if receipt of a scrolling signal causes operations to move from box 46 to box 54, it is axiomatic that receipt of such a scrolling signal cannot also cause operations to move from box 46 to box 45. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Fig. 1 of Cheng indicates that the Display Previous Page Mode (box 45) is never entered in response to a scrolling output.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that Cheng (nor the other cited art) fails to disclose or suggest at least one recitation from every one of the pending claims. As such, the pending rejections should be withdrawn and the application passed to issuance. In the event that the Examiner disagrees with the analysis presented herein, Applicant

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respectfully requests that the Examiner identify (1) the basis for claiming that entering the Display Previous Page Mode (box 45) from Scroll Mode (box 42) of Cheng by pressing a conventional "Forward" or "Back" button is "responsive to a scrolling output" and (2) the basis for claiming that receiving a scroll signal when in the Frame Turning Mode (box 46) of Cheng would cause operations to move to the Display Previous Page Mode (box 45), given that Fig. 1 of Cheng shows that receipt of such a scroll signal causes operations to move to Turn to Frame Mode (box 54).

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 25, 2005.

Traci A. Brown